

**U.S. CONSULATE GENERAL IN HO CHI MINH CITY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION**

**Announcement
2009 GLOBAL UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

The Public Affairs Section (PAS), U.S. Consulate General Ho Chi Minh City is seeking candidates for the 2009 Global Undergraduate Exchange Program. First- through third-year undergraduate students who demonstrate leadership through academic work, community involvement and extracurricular activities and have a good command of English are invited to apply for the program. The application deadline is November 14, 2008.

Program Description

Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Global Undergraduate Exchange Program provides scholarships for one semester or one academic year, enabling undergraduate students to study in a non-degree program at American universities. The goal of the program is to provide a diverse group of emerging student leaders with a substantive exchange experience at a U.S. college or university.

For the academic year 2009-10, the program will place approximately 90 students from countries in Asia at U.S. colleges and universities, starting in August 2009 or January 2010. Up to 9 scholarships are available for Vietnamese students. Scholarships are for either one academic-year (approximately 10 months) or one semester (approximately five months). The length of the scholarship award will depend upon the student applicant's interests and availability, as well as placement options, availability of funds, and recommendations by the Embassy or Consulate. In addition, some participants may be eligible for two to four weeks of intensive English language instruction in the United States prior to the start of the academic portion of their program.

All Global Undergraduate Program participants will be enrolled full-time in undergraduate course work to allow them ample opportunity for ongoing interaction with U.S. faculty and student peers. To ensure that students succeed in their new academic environments, host institutions will offer tailored instruction on topics including academic research and writing, critical thinking, time management, note-taking, and studying for and taking tests. Participants will live on-campus with American students.

Students will be provided with opportunities to participate in up to ten hours of community service activities per semester. Additionally, an internship component will be offered to all academic-year participants during the academic component of the program. Internships will be related to each participant's field of study and/or career plans.

Participants in this program must return to Vietnam upon completion of the program, and may not stay on for degree study in the United States.

Candidate Qualifications

Competition will be based on the potential of the candidates to become student leaders through academic performance, community involvement and extracurricular activities. Competition is open to all applicants who:

- ❖ Are currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree program in Vietnam.
- ❖ Will have completed their first year of undergraduate study by August 2009.
- ❖ Will have at least one semester to complete at their universities in Vietnam upon the completion of the program in the U.S.
- ❖ Have a good knowledge of English with the minimum TOEFL score of 525 (paper-based) or 70 (iBT).
- ❖ Demonstrate strong leadership qualities through academic performance, community involvement and extracurricular activities.

Preference will be given to non-elite students from less privileged backgrounds.

How to Apply

To apply for the program, applicants must submit electronically via email and a hard copy of the following documents:

1. Completed, signed Global Undergraduate Exchange Program application form.
2. Personal statement in English, 350-500 words, typed.
3. Copy of the data/photo pages of your passport.
4. Official transcripts for years of university study (with notarized English translations).
5. Official secondary high school graduation certificate (with notarized English translations).
6. Three letters of recommendation from teachers/professors, including one from the candidate's secondary level institution (with English translations).
7. TOEFL score report, minimum 525 (paper-based) or 70 (iBT).
8. Two photocopies of passport-sized (5cm x 5cm) photo.

Applications and questions should be sent to:

The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program
Public Affairs Section
U.S. Consulate General
65 Le Loi, 9th Floor, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City
Tel: 84-8-3 821 6400, ext. 105
Email: NguyenLH2@state.gov

Application deadline: Friday, November 14, 2008

Applications received later than 5:00 PM, Friday, November 14, 2008 will not be considered.

Note: Applications and inquiries from applicants in Northern provinces (Quang Tri and north) should be directed to:

Public Affairs Section

U.S. Embassy, 7 Lang Ha

Dong Da, Hanoi

Tel: 84-4-3 850 5000, ext. 6152

Email: pas.culture@gmail.com